

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

October 17, 2001

**IN RE:**

<b>APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION</b>	)	
<b>AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY BELL SOUTH</b>	)	<b>DOCKET NO. 01-00637</b>
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SPRINT</b>	)	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, L.P.</b>	)	
<b>PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF</b>	)	
<b>THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996</b>	)	

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**ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

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This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition for approval of the Interconnection Agreement (the "Agreement") negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Sprint Communications Company L.P. The Petition for approval of the Agreement came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

The Agreement was filed on July 19, 2001, and was considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on September 25, 2001, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Melvin J. Malone. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.* Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252, the Directors unanimously approved the Agreement and made the following findings and conclusions:

1) The Agreement is in the public interest as it provides consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s service area;

2) The Agreement is not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;

3) No party has sought intervention in this docket;

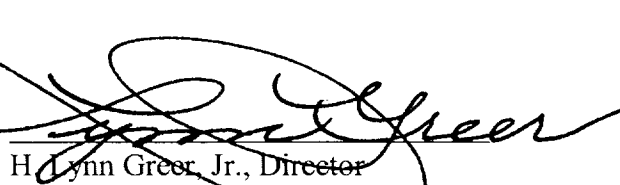
4) The Agreement satisfies the standards for approval of negotiated interconnection agreements set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252; and

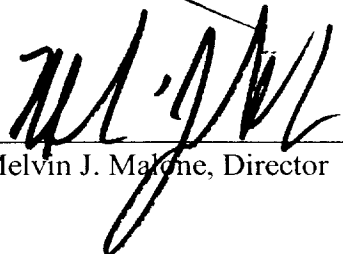
5) The Agreement is reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.*

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

The Interconnection Agreement negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Sprint Communications Company, L.P. is approved and is subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.

  
Sara Kyle, Chairman

  
H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director

  
Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:

  
K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary